The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

## WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

Entered as second-class matter September 16, 1915, at the postoffice at Washington, D. C., under the act of August 24, 1912.

VOL. 6. NO. 27. WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1916. WHOLE NO. 287.

## STRIKERS ASK $200,000

Bridgeport, Conn., Sept. 30.—Under the same conspiracy law that gave basis for the suit of Bridgeport employers against the Molders' Union and labor organizers, three of the strikers have instituted action for $200,000 damages against the Monumental Bronze Company and officials of the concern.

Two of the strikers allege they were assaulted in pursuance of a conspiracy in behalf of the Monumental Bronze Company and Ellie N. Sperry, president; Charles Bunnell, secretary; Frank Sperry, superintendent, and John Thompson, all employes of the concern. Each asks $50,000 damages. Two also allege fraudulent arrest, asking $50,000 each.

The action was instituted through the Molders' Union here after a conference between Organizer F. P. Duffy of the American Federation of Labor; William B. Rubin, of Milwaukee, and Attorney Vincent L. Keating, counsel for the three plaintiffs. It is taken in retaliation for the $200,000 suit brought by foundrymen against labor organizers and the strikers and the arrests that have been caused by the conspiracy.

Property of the Monumental Bronze Company, bank accounts of the company's officers and even the First Bridgeport National Bank, savings of Robinson and Sperry in the City Savings Bank were attached this morning by a deputy sheriff, who tied up about $65,000 in all. No money belonging to Thompson and Clancy was found, and they are being sought this afternoon with warrants.

John Skudlarck charges that he was assaulted, beaten, bruised and maltreated in pursuance of a conspiracy and confederation acting in behalf of the Monumental Bronze Company and the men mentioned, and that the defendants directed and caused the beating. The same is alleged of John Zaleski, who further charges that he was haled to court after the beating at the instigation of the defendants with malicious design to injure. John Brenan alleges he was also haled to court for the same reason.

Organizer Duffy, who is a defendant in the $200,000 suit brought by the foundrymen and conducted the strike, said today:

"These men were riding bicycles on a lonely road when the employes of the plant drove up in an automobile, allowed thugs to beat the riders, and then drove away. Subsequently they caused the arrest of the men they beat, charging them with having thrown stones. It was done to intimidate them."

## EIGHT-HOUR DAY FOR WOMEN.

Chicago, Sept. 30.—The Women's Trade Union League of this city, in co-operation with the Leagues of St. Louis, Mo., Kansas City, Mo., and Springfield, Ill., have adopted and sent out a call for an interstate conference to be held in Chicago October 6, 7 and 8, 1916. The call is mailed body in Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska and Illinois are asked to send two trade union women delegates.

This conference is called to discuss and plan ways and means of securing the eight-hour day for working women, both by organization and legislation. The very atmosphere seems permeated with the thought of the eight-hour day, therefore, this seems to be the psychological time for every trade unionist to unite in an effort to secure the eight hours on workers of the nation this much needed condition. This also seems an opportune time to carry on a campaign for organization among the unorganized women workers.

Because this conference is so important to all women workers of these states, it is hoped that the delegates from all these central bodies will support this plea for delegates and send two of their best women workers.

## TO PROBE THE BREAD RISE.

Washington, Sept. 30.—Reports of actual increase in bread prices in various parts of the country reaching Washington has caused serious concern at the offices of the Federal Trade Commission.

The general certainty of a further material advance in the price of the country's principal food made it clear that consideration of the problem by Federal authorities must be hastened, and it was stated that the members of the commission, now on vacation, would hurry back and that the commission would assemble immediately.

Agents of the commission, in co-operation with the Department of Justice, are pressing the survey of bread prices throughout the country to be submitted to the commission.

## HAVE JOINT INTERESTS.

Quincy, Ill., Sept. 30.—A call has been issued for the first conference of the union labor and farmers' organization ever held in Illinois. It will be signed by President Josh H. Walker and Secretary Victor Olander of the Illinois Federation of Labor, and President Austin B. Hill and Secretary John P. Doyle of the Farmers' Educational and Co-Operative union.

Legislation in which both farmers and union labor have joint interest will be considered by the conference, which will be held in Quincy on October 7. There will be the week of the annual meeting here of the Illinois Federation of Labor, and it is expected there will be at least 1,000 persons in the conference.

## MEDIATORS WILL TRY AGAIN.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Sept. 30.—James A. Steese, of the Garfield Glass, of the state department of labor, who have previously been unsuccessful in their efforts to bring to an end the trolley strike that has been waged for almost twelve months, will renew again their efforts toward securing peace. They will be assisted by Regan Orr, international treasurer of farmers' holiday.

The company has offered to reinstate 130 men, but the union is so far refused to accept that proposition. The governor has interested himself in bringing about a peaceful adjustment.

## NOW WORK FORTY-FIVE HOURS.

Cleveland, Sept. 30.—The members of the newly-organized Butcher Workmen employed by the Cleveland Provision company demanded shorter hours. The company refused to make the concession and the men left their jobs. After remaining idle for five days a conference was held and an understanding was reached whereby the company agreed to grant 45 hours a week and the men returned to work.

## 100 PER CENT NEW UNION.

Minneapolis, Minn., Sept. 30.—The new Jewelry Workers' and Watchmakers' Union is now firmly established in this city and can boast of practically a one hundred per cent organization. Almost every man employed in this industry in Minneapolis is a member of the new union.

## MAINE ENDORSES 54-HOUR LAW.

Portland, Me., Sept. 30.—A decisive victory was won at the election when the voters of the State by a decisive majority approved the 54-hour bill submitted by action of the legislature. The law prohibits the employment of females or minors more than 54 hours a week in any mercantile or manufacturing establishment. The measure was indorsed by the labor unions and submitted to the legislature for action thereon. From the very inception of the fight for its passage the manufacturers and interests in the State have bitterly opposed every step of progress toward its final adoption. After favorable action on it by the legislature, the opposition forces organized to secure its defeat at the polls, collecting a fund amounting to thousands of dollars and establishing headquarters at Augusta, where seventeen stenographers were engaged in sending thousands of copies of literature explaining to the voters of the State how the enactment of the 54-hour law would drive many of the leading manufacturing concerns and textile mills out of the State. Despite all that, the measure carried by a large majority, a signal victory for the trade unions of Maine.

## WANT THE LAW REPEALED.

Seattle, Wash., Sept. 30.—The Washington State Federation of Labor is in the midst of a fight to repeal the anti-picketing law, rushed through the State legislature and approved by the governor before March 4 and March 18, last year. While the law prohibits picketing it is also an attack on free speech, free press and other forms of publicity, which is defined in Section 1, which reads:

"Whoever shall, for the purpose of carrying out, or calling attention to any picketing, directly or indirectly, any controversy, disagreement or dispute between any labor union or organization, any member or members thereof and any person engaged in any business, calling or employe, or for the purpose of hindering or preventing such person from conducting his business or his work or employing or retaining in his employ any person who may lawfully engage in such business."

The law specifically states that "any person who shall engage in picketing shall be guilty of a misdemeanor."

Trade unionists are asking citizens to aid them in repealing this statute.

## CONCEDED EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

San Francisco, Sept. 30.—The Vulcan Iron works has conceded the eight-hour day to the housesmiths and architectural iron workers, the men being employed on a strictly union shop basis. The Vulcan Iron works is the third firm to break away from the original ten firms which locked out their housesmiths, refused to grant the eight-hour day and declared for the nonunion shop on August 1.

That the remaining seven nonunion firms, working nine instead of nine hours a day under nonunion conditions, will shortly follow the example of the three firms that have granted the original demands of the union is the opinion of the business representatives of the International Iron Worker's Union, who reports that all members of the organization are now employed and will be able to help fill the orders for union housesmiths.

## HOW OUR WEALTH INCREASES.

Washington, Sept. 30.—The United States brags all world's records for exports, but the figures that show the foreign goods left American ports, the Department of Commerce announced. This was the largest month's trade balance on record, which was in May. No other nation in the history of the world had so great an export trade in a single month.

American imports in August dropped to $196,000,000, as against $224,000,000 in July, leaving a favorable trade balance of $251,000,000.

Total exports for the year ending August 3 amounted to $4,750,000,000. Imports were $2,200,000,000, leaving a favorable trade balance for the year of $2,550,000,000.

The net gain in gold during August was $25,000,000, and for the year, $105,000,000.

## FINANCING THE FIGHT.

San Francisco, Sept. 30.—Every trade unionist in the city will contribute 20 cents a week to a general fund to be raised by the Labor Council to combat the efforts of the Chamber of Commerce to establish the non-union shop in this city.

This decision was reached by the Labor Council at its last meeting when it was unanimously voted that every trade unionist in San Francisco 20 cents per week for an indefinite period. It is estimated there are 65,000 trade unionists in San Francisco. With each trade unionist contributing 20 cents per week, the Labor Council will have at its disposal $13,000 a week.

## MILK DRIVERS ON STRIKE.

New York, Sept. 30.—Having presented demands for increased wages and receiving no definite reply, half of the milk drivers of this city and adjacent boroughs are on strike, involving already nearly 6,000, half of the number employed in delivering the city's milk supply. It is reached the number will probably be doubled in the next few days. The men demanded $18 a week for beginners, $20 for the second year, and $21 for the third year, in addition to a commission of 1½ per cent for selling weekly, on all collections. This is an average increase of $3 per week in wages. Formerly the method of collecting has been done without additional compensation.

## SHOT BY STRIKEBREAKER.

Nyack, N. Y., Sept. 30.—Thomas Hughes, president of Local Union No. 61 of the International Brotherhood of Paper Makers, was shot and seriously wounded by John Miller, a strikebreaker in the Rose Point paper mills. Hughes was endavoring to persuade Miller to quit work when the negro pulled out a revolver and shot him through the stomach.

Miller is employed in the paper mill and a squad of deputy sheriffs hurried him to the county jail. Fifty-five pickets are under arrest charged with rioting the paper mill. Hughes has a fighting chance for life.

## "MODEL" INDUSTRIAL TOWN.

Pittsburgh, Sept. 30.—Westinghouse interests will begin work soon on the erection of 60 homes for workers that will be the nucleus of what is intended to be a "model industrial town." The houses will be of four, five and six rooms, and rented at reasonable figures. Each house worker with a family will be able to have a pleasant home. All streets will be paved and shade trees planted.

## LABOR UNREST IN HONOLULU.

Honolulu, T. H., Sept. 30.—Labor unrest penetrated Honolulu today when 300 stevedores went on strike for an increase in wages and better working conditions. There has been no disorder.

# *ECONOMY OF THE EIGHT-HOUR LAW*

By SAMUEL GOMPERS, in American Federationist.

The discussion and prominence recently given the eight-hour workday principle has given the world the benefit of many experiences that might otherwise have never been made public. Among many convincing statements setting forth the economic advantages of the shorter workday is the following by Arthur L. Eardy:

From 1901 to 1905 I was Pacific Coast manager of the Armour Fertilizer Works, which was operated by Armour and Company, of Chicago.

When I began work the laborers in the plant worked ten hours daily for $1.75. I raised this to $1.90 and reduced time to nine hours, then to eight hours without increasing the cost per ton.

Further experiments with Japanese and Mexicans of small stature the cost of labor per ton in the California plant was no higher than in the southern plants where the employes worked from ten hours for $1.25, and where the latest machinery was used, while our mixing was done with hand shovels and screens. My experience proved that increasing wages and shortening the hours of labor do not necessarily increase the cost per unit of work accomplished.

We reprint the statement of the Ford Motor Company entitled "The Results of the Eight-Hour Workday Over the Nine and Ten." It is as follows:

A certain group of men working nine hours under the old system assembled 750 radiators. The same group working eight hours under the new plan assembled 1,300 radiators. A group of men working 9 hours assembled the old plan turned out 38 finished cars. The new, working eight hours, the same men turned out 50 finished cars. The 9 hour men ran nine hours under the old system and turned out 1,700 tanks. Under the new, working eight hours, the 10 men turned out 1,700. Hours were reduced, wages increased and cost went down.

In addition, it may not be uninteresting to recall a statement which Mr. Henry Ford made in Detroit, August 31, 1916, in a conference with Judge Henry Neil, father of the mothers' pension system. Mr. Ford said that if he had control of the railroads he would cut the freight rates to one-third the present rate, double the pay of the railroad workers, and by cutting out the present lax railroad management, make more profits for the stockholders than are earned at present.

What happened in the Armour plant and the Ford Company has been duplicated in many others. Whatever element in the processes of production or distribution is the particular consideration becomes the pivotal factor with reference to which other factors are adjusted. In the workers force consideration for the indispensable human abor bower, then the worklag, mechanical and material equipment, sanitary provisions and arrangements are all made to conserve human life and energy.

When the workers have made human labor more costly than machinery, then the latest and best machinery and best management of materials will be provided to save the human being distilled from the lesser hours of human labor.

Managerial skill can accomplish much but it is usually invoked until workers present and force demands. The New York Times, in commenting upon the remarkable attitude of the railroads toward the eight-hour law, concedes this fact:

Between now and January 1, when the eight-hour law takes effect, the railroad men of the country will give a great deal of thought to their new problem. Officers in charge of operation will not depend entirely on the outcome of the work of the railroads' legal departments. They will consider the possibility that the eight-hour law will stand and will consider how it can be met. New interest is given by this law to eliminate all waste time, for the more which can complete its work in eight hours within the eight hours would not get any more under the old law than under the old. Possibly there are many runs which are taking more than eight hours now which railroad ingenuity—and it is very fertile—could be compiled within that time. Possibly there are ways of running trains that will give the members of the railroad unions an eight-hour day than they think possible or want.

A valuable and authentic contribution to the eight-hour day discussion is the announcement that the United States Navy Department announced on September 11 that the semi-drydock at Bainbridge Arizona was completed on schedule time and that notwithstanding the eight-hour workday prevails in the government shipyards and that nine hours generally prevails in private shipyards, the cost of construction of the Arizona was $1,000,000 less than the lowest bid of the privately owned shipyards.

This fact is of significance with reference to both humanitarian welfare and economic considerations. The eight-hour day, now universally approved, would never have been established without the organized labor movement. It was the labor movement that advocated and fought for eight hours when the principle was considered neither reputable nor honest. It was the labor movement that bore the brunt of the unjustly maligned, starved, sacrificed and fought that the shorter workday might exist.

It is the labor movement that is back of every new advance for eight hours or for aught else, and it is the labor movement that will have to maintain the progress already achieved.

## STONE CUTTERS WIN RAISE.

Boston, Sept. 30.—As the result of a compromise agreement reached between the wage committee of Journeymen Stone Cutters' Union of North America and representatives of the Associated and Artificial Stone Manufacturers' Association the strike of the 200 union stone cutters for increased wages and other betterments, has been called off.

The increase in wages between the union and the employers gives the men in the shops 42½ cents an hour for a 44-hour week and 45 cents an hour for work on buildings. The men were getting 56½ cents an hour in the shops and were seeking 66 cents an hour in the shops and 70 cents an hour for work on buildings. The strike involved all shops in Boston and within the limits of the jurisdiction of this city controlled by the union.

## UNION OF RIVERMEN.

Point Pleasant, W. Va., Sept. 30.—Employes of 10 river towboats have effected an organization here, by which they hope to secure better working conditions and uniform wages. The organization includes men employed on towboats and packets. It is said to be the only organization of its kind in the United States, and grew out of a strike two weeks ago, just as towboats were leaving Cincinnati, refusing to send coal fleets South. The demands for increased wages by the men were granted. Capt. Sebastian Vickers was elected president of the new organization, which was effected by J. A. Pauley, secretary. Capt. Vickers and Capt. Harry Lowe, president of the Huntington Coke and Coal Exchange. The organization is composed of 500 boatmen and 100 packet employes. The present pay to firemen is $60 a month and deckhands $50 a month.

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Baltimore, Sept. 30.—Confronted with the ever-increasing demand for labor and the willingness on the part of private corporations to pay higher wages, the city will increase the wages of all men earning $2 a day or less, effective January 1 of next year. At the last weekly conference of department heads in the Mayor's office, Mayor Preston, chief executive directed the heads of the various departments to employ laborers to include in their estimate of appropriations for next year such an increase. The city has been unable to get the demand for labor. In all of the departments where big public work has been under way there have been delays because of the inability to get men.

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## FORMED AN INTERNATIONAL.

New York, Sept. 30.—Representatives of Jewelry Workers' Unions in New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Newark, Providence, Boston, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Boston met in this city and formed an International Union, with a membership of 7,000. The convention lasted three days. The officers elected are: Jacob Billikopf, Chicago, president; John Schwartz, of New York, general organizer; Abraham Greenstein, of New York, general secretary-treasurer. Vice presidents, Newark, first vice president; John Dougherty, of Philadelphia, second vice president; George Cunningham, of Providence, fourth vice president; A. Lohengrin, of Buffalo, fifth vice president; J. Weinstein, of Washington, sixth vice president, and Jacob Chishlisky, of Cleveland, seventh vice president. It was decided to have the headquarters of the organization in New York.

## INCREASE OF 50 CENTS A DAY.

San Francisco, Sept. 30.—The threatened strike of unions affiliated with the Pacific Coast Maritime Builders' Council was averted when the unions voted to accept the compromise offer from the Master Shipwrights' Association of $4.50 per day on all work, which is an increase of 50 cents a day over the old scale.

Some weeks ago the unions asked for $5 per day on new work. This was refused by the employers, who offered $4.50 per day on all work and will at once get the increase of 50 cents a day on new work. About 700 men are affected by the wage increase.

## STOGIE MAKERS STRIKE.

Bellaire, O., Sept. 30.—About 300 stogie makers employed in fifteen factories in this county and in town on the river in Pennsylvania are on strike. The stogie makers there are composed of boys and girls, and it is said that the sanitary and humanitarian aspects, the prevention of contagion and the public health, is a plain business proposition.

"In the past, it has been customary for the manufacturing plants of an industrial plant to confine his activities to the treatment of those injured or taken across his path, but he will now give only a part of his time to these fields," said a physician. "The physician should be a whole-time employe. His duties should include medical examination and supervision of the health of the working force. Employes of experience and skill, whose services are of value, should be kept in health with such surroundings that their period of service is being rapidly cut short.

## HAVE CHANGED ITS MEANING.

New York, Sept. 30.—In a special article published in the Evening Sun, Dr. Seaburg, associate editor of the Encyclopedia Americana, declares that courts have given the word "liberty" a different meaning from that intended by the framers of the fourteenth amendment to the federal constitution.

"After the civil war," he says, "the fourteenth amendment was adopted primarily to secure the rights of the freed slaves, and this amendment was, of course, applied to the States as well as to the federal government. This amendment, as well as the laws, include corporations as well as natural persons, and the term 'liberty,' as used in the fourteenth amendment, has been given the widest possible interpretation with the result that a great deal of legislation which was clearly desired by the people has been annulled. Many of these really good laws have been lost because of the courts have held that they violated that 'liberty' which the framers of the amendment never intended it as offered protestation and not what was intended by the framers of the constitution.

"The result is that we must see that much of the modern social and labor legislation which seems nominally to offend against the fourteenth amendment is fact, designed to secure a wider liberty than the framers of that era ever before known to man."

## CHIEF OF POLICE ENJOINED.

Milwaukee, Sept. 30.—An injunction against Chief of Police Samuel Minturn, Fire Chief Swanson and Building Inspectors of the Allis-Chalmers plant, restraining Minturn from having any hand in enforcing the anti-picketing law, was granted in connection with the strike. The injunction was revealed to the public the fact that West Allis has a law against the right, under an ordinance, to select pickets for the jail when arrested.

It is against this procedure, which strikers brand as unheard of in modern court methods, that the injunction was directed. Minturn and his men, it is asserted by strikers, have served as big assets for the strike breakers.

"It's a scheme to dampen my authority," said Minturn, when he heard of the injunction. "But I want to emphasize, any injunction strong enough to make me ignore my obligation as police chief of West Allis."

## MORE PAY FOR GLASS WORKERS.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Sept. 30.—Substantial increases in wages for workers in the glass factories in all parts of the country was decided upon at the conference held in Cleveland between the heads of the Window Glass Workers' Association and representatives of the factories.

The new scale becomes operative October 25 and provides for an increase of 10, 15 and 18½ per cent. The new scale will affect approximately 6,000 men in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kansas, Oklahoma and Indiana.

## SILK MILL STRIKE ENDED.

Scranton, Pa., Sept. 30.—Silk workers employed at the Eagle silk mills, Dunmore plant, who went on a strike three weeks ago have returned to work. The strikers demanded better wages, the abolition of their union and the reinstatement of several discharged workers. The company agreed to treat with a committee from the union and reinstate the discharged workers. The question of wages and other matter of wages should be submitted to arbitration. This board has already been formed and it is said that it is composed of a representative from each side and another selected by the two.

## JUDGES WANT LIVING WAGE.

Lansing, Mich., Sept. 30.—The Circuit Judges' union, officially known as the Michigan Association of Circuit Judges, has demanded a living wage. The present rate is $5,500 a year. At a meeting of the association of the state it was resolved to ask the legislature to raise these figures to $8,000. In discussing the matter it was brought out that a number referred to the advantage of lobbying and the august body became panic stricken.

## JUTE MILLS ADVANCE PAY.

Paterson, N. J., Sept. 30.—Five hundred workers in the Dolphin jute mills were granted a 10 per cent increase in wages. The granting of this increase simultaneously with the announcement of the purchase of the Bagheot silk mills by the company provides higher wages for nearly 2,000 mill workers of this city.

## MOLDERS GET INCREASE.

Pottsville, Pa., Sept. 30.—All molders at the Eastern steel works in this city have received a 5 per cent increase in wages. This is the second advance in wages made by this company within recent months.

## STONE CUTTERS WIN RAISE.

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## INCREASE FOR SHELL MAKERS.

Wheeling, W. Va., Sept. 30.—Shell makers, members of the Machinists' Union, had been negotiating for some time to secure a strike failed, and increased wages with the Wheeling Mold and Foundry Co. No agreement having been reached, a strike followed, which lasted for a week, when a conference was held and a settlement reached. Under the provisions of the agreement the men will hereafter work eight hours a day and receive pay for nine hours' time and double time for all holidays. Minimum wages are fixed at 38 cents per hour.

Laborers in the shell department are also included in the contract. They are now receiving 16 cents an hour for eight hours' work, with time and a half for overtime. Laborers, if found efficient, will be advanced to machines where vacancies occur.

## POTTERS SECURED ADVANCE.

Atlantic City, Sept. 30.—After a three-days' conference between the representatives of the United States Potters Association and the National Brotherhood of Operative Potters, the latter organization conceded most of the demands of the Journeymen, and advanced the scale of wages for pressers 10 per cent; for mold workers, 20 per cent, and for kilnmen 10 per cent. In all, twenty-three demands for increases and adjustments were settled by the joint session. Hereafter disputed points will be submitted to joint arbitration boards, and if these fail to agree extreme measures which might unnecessarily embarrass the industry. This action was approved by a vote of a number of unauthorized strikes recently.

## GARMENT WORKERS STRIKE.

Parkersburg, W. Va., Sept. 30.—Garment Workers employed by the Superior Woolen Mills are out on strike, the men demanding an eight-hour day and a union shop. The management is evidently determined to fight the union and it is reported that they will make an obstinate effort to operate the plant with scabs. The Superior Woolen Mills company operates a chain of clothing stores.

The Acme Woolen Mills company also of Parkersburg, have signed up with the tailors, granting the eight-hour day and a minimum wage scale for sewers. The United Woolen Mills company claimed to be the original and largest concern of its kind in the State, has always readily signed up with the Tailors' Union.

## THEIR BUSINESS INCREASING.

San Francisco, Sept. 30.—The Garment Workers' Union reports that two new factories manufacturing women's clothing have recently located in San Francisco and are employing members of the International Workers' Union and are operating under strictly union conditions. One firm is Hamilton-Carhart, and the other is Lamson Bros. Both firms have factories in the East, but so great is the demand for union-made garments on the Pacific Coast that they determined to establish branch factories in San Francisco. Both firms voluntarily unionized their plants.

## LAKE SEAMEN GET RAISE.

Cleveland, Sept. 30.—The Lake Carriers' association, through its secretary, Augustus Hines, which met in this city last week, provided an increase in wages to boatswains, wheelsmen, watchmen, firemen, oilers, deckhands and coal passers in arranging the fall schedule of wages on the Great Lakes. The schedule for 1917 will be as follows: Boatswains, $35 per month, firemen, oilers, wheelsmen, watchmen, $30, deckhands and coal passers, $26.50. The increases are effective October 1.

## STRIKE CLOSED THE PLANT.

Dover, N. J., Sept. 30.—A strike of 200 laborers at the Richardson Foundry stove and range works resulted in the plant being shut down indefinitely. Five hundred men are thrown out of employment besides the 200 on strike.

The strike grew out of the molders and melters, want $3 a day for eight hours' work, recognition of the union and reinstatement of all men who were discharged during a recent strike.

## WON A STRIKE IN 15 MINUTES.

Pittsburgh, Sept. 30.—Broom makers at seven factories in this city won a strike in record time. Fourteen and a half minutes after they had made good their threats to strike unless their demand for a 20 per cent increase were met, the men were back at work, the increase in wages granted by the broom manufacturers. The controversy had been going on for four weeks, and 1,000 men have served an ultimatum on their employers.

## CHAINMAKERS ORGANIZED.

Trenton, N. J., Sept. 30.—An union of chainmakers has been organized in this city. Its membership will include practically all the men employed at that industry. It will receive its charter from the international Brotherhood of Blacksmiths.

## SILK WORKERS GET MORE PAY.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Sept. 30.—Twenty-five hundred employes of the Eagle silk mills here, Dunmore and Kingston, have been granted a 10 per cent wage increase, along with other concessions.

## INCREASE OF 50 CENTS A DAY.

San Francisco, Sept. 30.—The threatened strike of unions affiliated with the Pacific Coast Maritime Builders' Council was averted when the unions voted to accept the compromise offer from the Master Shipwrights' Association of $4.50 per day on all work, which is an increase of 50 cents a day over the old scale.

Some weeks ago the unions asked for $5 per day on new work. This was refused by the employers, who offered $4.50 per day on all work and will at once get the increase of 50 cents a day on new work. About 700 men are affected by the wage increase.

## STOGIE MAKERS STRIKE.

Bellaire, O., Sept. 30.—About 300 stogie makers employed in fifteen factories in this county and in town on the river in Pennsylvania are on strike. The stogie makers there are composed of boys and girls, and it is said that the sanitary and humanitarian aspects, the prevention of contagion and the public health, is a plain business proposition.

"In the past, it has been customary for the manufacturing plants of an industrial plant to confine his activities to the treatment of those injured or taken across his path, but he will now give only a part of his time to these fields," said a physician. "The physician should be a whole-time employe. His duties should include medical examination and supervision of the health of the working force. Employes of experience and skill, whose services are of value, should be kept in health with such surroundings that their period of service is being rapidly cut short.

## HAVE CHANGED ITS MEANING.

New York, Sept. 30.—In a special article published in the Evening Sun, Dr. Seaburg, associate editor of the Encyclopedia Americana, declares that courts have given the word "liberty" a different meaning from that intended by the framers of the fourteenth amendment to the federal constitution.

"After the civil war," he says, "the fourteenth amendment was adopted primarily to secure the rights of the freed slaves, and this amendment was, of course, applied to the States as well as to the federal government. This amendment, as well as the laws, include corporations as well as natural persons, and the term 'liberty,' as used in the fourteenth amendment, has been given the widest possible interpretation with the result that a great deal of legislation which was clearly desired by the people has been annulled. Many of these really good laws have been lost because the courts have held that they violated that 'liberty' which the framers of the amendment never intended it as offered protestation and not what was intended by the framers of the constitution.

"The result is that we must see that much of the modern social and labor legislation which seems nominally to offend against the fourteenth amendment is fact, designed to secure a wider liberty than the framers of that era ever before known to man."

## CHIEF OF POLICE ENJOINED.

Milwaukee, Sept. 30.—An injunction against Chief of Police Samuel Minturn, Fire Chief Swanson and Building Inspectors of the Allis-Chalmers plant, restraining Minturn from having any hand in enforcing the anti-picketing law, was granted in connection with the strike. The injunction was revealed to the public the fact that West Allis has a law against the right, under an ordinance, to select pickets for the jail when arrested.

It is against this procedure, which strikers brand as unheard of in modern court methods, that the injunction was directed. Minturn and his men, it is asserted by strikers, have served as big assets for the strike breakers.

"It's a scheme to dampen my authority," said Minturn, when he heard of the injunction. "But I want to emphasize, any injunction strong enough to make me ignore my obligation as police chief of West Allis."

## MORE PAY FOR GLASS WORKERS.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Sept. 30.—Substantial increases in wages for workers in the glass factories in all parts of the country was decided upon at the conference held in Cleveland between the heads of the Window Glass Workers' Association and representatives of the factories.

The new scale becomes operative October 25 and provides for an increase of 10, 15 and 18½ per cent. The new scale will affect approximately 6,000 men in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kansas, Oklahoma and Indiana.

## SILK MILL STRIKE ENDED.

Scranton, Pa., Sept. 30.—Silk workers employed at the Eagle silk mills, Dunmore plant, who went on a strike three weeks ago have returned to work. The strikers demanded better wages, the abolition of their union and the reinstatement of several discharged workers. The company agreed to treat with a committee from the union and reinstate the discharged workers. The question of wages and other matter of wages should be submitted to arbitration. This board has already been formed and it is said that it is composed of a representative from each side and another selected by the two.

## JUDGES WANT LIVING WAGE.

Lansing, Mich., Sept. 30.—The Circuit Judges' union, officially known as the Michigan Association of Circuit Judges, has demanded a living wage. The present rate is $5,500 a year. At a meeting of the association of the state it was resolved to ask the legislature to raise these figures to $8,000. In discussing the matter it was brought out that a number referred to the advantage of lobbying and the august body became panic stricken.

## JUTE MILLS ADVANCE PAY.

Paterson, N. J., Sept. 30.—Five hundred workers in the Dolphin jute mills were granted a 10 per cent increase in wages. The granting of this increase simultaneously with the announcement of the purchase of the Bagheot silk mills by the company provides higher wages for nearly 2,000 mill workers of this city.

## MOLDERS GET INCREASE.

Pottsville, Pa., Sept. 30.—All molders at the Eastern steel works in this city have received a 5 per cent increase in wages. This is the second advance in wages made by this company within recent months.

## WOMEN WIN AN INCREASE.

Wilmington, Del., Sept. 30.—Two hundred and fifty of the women employes of F. Blumenthal & Co., morocco manufacturers, demanded an increase in wages. Their request was promptly and positively refused. A strike resulted. The firm finding that the women were determined to make a fight, waited for a conference. A satisfactory adjustment was reached and the women's demands granted. The women returned to work.

## BAD HEALTH IN STEEL MILLS

Washington, Sept. 30.—The United States Bureau of Mines, which has in the past been mainly interested in the reduction of death by accidents among men connected with the mining industries, has broadened its scope to include the health of the men, and has just issued a report on health conservation at steel mills. This report contains advice of direct value to every one of the 30,000,000 workers in the United States, and also to all employers of labor. Director Van H. Manning, of the Bureau of Mines, and Dr. J. A. Fordyce, of the Public Health Service, co-operated on the report.

The importance of the prevention of disease among workers can be realized from the fact that the average loss of time due to illness among approximately 30,000,000 workers in the United States, is nine days a year," says Surg. Watkins. "If medical attention be estimated at $1 a day, and wages at $3 a day, this loss amounts to nearly $180,000,000 annually.

"The statement that